



## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

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State Treasurer

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# TREASURY PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **KENNEDY ANNOUNCES 2008 GREAT COLORADO PAYBACK NEW POLICIES TO STREAMLINE CLAIMS**

**DENVER** - Colorado State Treasurer Cary Kennedy today announced new policies simplifying the process for Colorado citizens to claim their lost and forgotten property. On Sunday, as part of the Great Colorado Payback, Kennedy's office will publish 80,000 names – the owners of more than \$50 million in lost and forgotten property who were added this year to a database that now contains more than one million names.

“We want to make it easier for people to claim their property,” Kennedy said. “We have put in place new policies so if the value is under 100 dollars, people only have to provide valid identification and their social security number,” said Kennedy. “This will make it much easier for thousands of Coloradans to claim their property.”

Kennedy also announced changes to the unclaimed property database that will allow people to find out up front the value of the assets that her office is holding on their behalf. “We want people to know right away whether the property we are holding is worth more than 50 dollars,” she said. Kennedy said the changes would be up and running on her website within the next couple of weeks.

The Great Colorado Payback, the state's unclaimed property program, holds lost and forgotten property turned over to the state by financial institutions, insurance companies and other businesses until claimed by the rightful owner. Once the property makes its way to Treasury, it is held indefinitely until claimed by the rightful owner or heir.

“Last year, we returned over \$16,000,000 worth of property, but that has only scratched the surface,” Kennedy said. The program is holding over \$300 million belonging to over one million owners. “Coloradans have a much better chance of finding unclaimed property than winning the lottery—and it costs nothing to try,”

For additional information on the unclaimed property program or to search for your name in the Great Colorado Payback database, please visit [www.greatcopayback.com](http://www.greatcopayback.com) or call 303-866-6070 or toll-free at 1-800-825-2111. There is no charge for the service and no time limit to file a claim.

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